

CAMBODIA

I. Natural hazards in Cambodia

1.1 Natural hazards likely to affect the country

Flood, drought, epidemic, famine,

1.2 Recent major disasters

year	dis_type	dis_subset	people_affected	total_dam (US 000s)
2000	FL	Flood	3448053	100000
2001	FL	Flood	1669182	15000
2002	FL	Flood	1470000	—
2005	DR	Drought	600000	—
2001	DR	Drought	300000	—
2002	DR	Drought	650000	38000

Source: "EM-DAT: The OFDA/CRED International Disaster Database, www.em-dat.net - Université catholique de Louvain - Brussels - Belgium"

During the floods in 2000, 2001 and 2002, and the drought in 2004, it was recognized that government leadership and actions taken by provincial Governors were crucial in the mobilization of resources to respond to urgent needs. There have been noticeable successes, such as reduction in mortality rates, decrease in damages, and improvement of flood resistant public infrastructure, and social services under the projects of flood rehabilitation and rural development.

In the context of flood mitigation and based on flood impacts in 2000, the Government has adopted both non-structural and structural measures that are implemented by concerned ministries and agencies i.e. as non-structural measures, the building code has been drafted and recommended for further construction of road, bridges, school buildings, health centers with a new standard compared with flood level of 2000. Government directives have been issued to all ministries, provinces and public for implementation to contribute to the loss of properties free from flood threat. Meanwhile, the Government through a national developed plan for flood mitigation purpose has adopted structural measures. National roads number 1, 5, 6, 7, 11 and provincial roads have been rehabilitated and developed. More large bridges and waterways are erected to discharge the floodwater as quickly as possible so as lives and properties are kept free from devastation. Protecting dikes around Phnom Penh capital, around three eastern provincial towns (Prey Veng, Kompong Cham and Kratie) have been erected and yearly maintained to ensure safety during the seasoning flood. Diverted water canal, West of Phnom Penh, has been erected to mitigate the possible flash flood from the mountainous region and to store water for supplying rice crop in the

prone drought affected areas. Through this project implementation, Bio – Diversity Echo System and natural environment preservation are promoted and contribute to Poverty Eradication Strategy of the Government. Selected safe areas have been recommended to be installed in high ground throughout target provinces in order to receive flood victims evacuated from flooded areas, and set up a systematic management to ensure the security, food supplies, water and sanitation of the evacuated people. Mobile houses have been deployed in all safe areas and managed by the armed forces.

II. Disaster management system

2.1 Administrative system

Conventional long form: Kingdom of Cambodia

Conventional short form: Cambodia

Government type: multiparty democracy under a constitutional monarchy

Capital: Phnom Penh

Administrative divisions: 20 provinces (khaitt, singular and plural) and 4 municipalities (krong, singular and plural)

2.2 Legal systems and national policy on DM

Sub-decree No. 35 ANK has been a core principle for disaster management in Cambodia, creating the National Committee for Disaster Management.

Cambodia has neither national policy nor law on disaster management. The proposed policy had undergone three revisions since it was first discussed in 1997, but is yet to be approved by the Council of Ministers and signed as an official document by the Prime Minister. The ability of the Government Ministries, provincial and district leadership to provide effective civil services, particularly in relation to disaster management activities is constrained due to inadequate understanding of specific roles and responsibilities, lack of clarity in “lines of communications” and criteria for decision making, planning, and implementing.

2.3 Structure of disaster management

All Ministers and Institutions concerned shall collaborate closely with NCDM when necessary in an emergency situation. In addition, NCDM shall adopt the Cambodian Red Cross as its main partner to jointly conduct relief operations in times of disasters. NCDM has a General Secretariat that acts as an implementing unit within NCDM Headquarters in order to provide advice to the Royal Government on DM issues. There shall also be CDM Structures at the Provincial/Municipal and District Levels.

2.4 Priorities on disaster risk management

COMPREHENSIVE DISASTER MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

Flood rehabilitation program Its objective is “to rehabilitate an economic and social infrastructure, while also indirectly supporting recovery in rural production and incomes.

Local based project on rural disaster management "The Community Self-Reliance and Flood Risk Reduction Project", a Technical Assistance (TA) Project that supports the Royal Government of Cambodia in increasing community self-reliance in recurrent flood disasters.

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Preparedness aside from the yearly small allocation of rice, fuel and cash to NCDM operations, including training.

DISASTER MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM

NCDM efforts on the development and installation of a National Disaster Damage and Needs Assessment System. The UN-DMT, with the support from the World Food Program (WFP) and UNICEF, provided for the development of such a system. Key success factors include coordinated actions, high level leadership, and participation of communities before-during- and after disasters.

PUBLIC AWARENESS AND EARLY WARNING

Orientation field visits to flood-prone provinces to disseminate new Sub-decree and Circulars by H.E. Nhim Vanda and senior staff of NCDM are conducted every May of the year. Discussion of the Circular and the new Sub-decree with various government ministries were also separately conducted. The two circulars were renewed which now include the validation and mandate by Prime Minister to be the legitimated legal based documents for disaster preparedness actions.

With limited capacity, system and procedures of information management and reporting system, NCDM is using spreadsheets for data collection and storage. NCDM relies on information collected by local authorities using spreadsheets and fax based on actual occurrence of flood and drought.

COORDINATION AND COLLABORATION

In addition, NCDM provides a coordinating role in establishing and implementing community based disaster preparedness programs with NGOs.

URGENT PRIORITY ACTION:

Development of a Strategy for RGC's National Committee for Disaster Management

III. Disaster Management Plan

National Emergency Management Plan

The Secretariats at the national, provincial, and municipal levels must cooperate closely with the Cambodian Red Cross (CRC) at all levels of planning and in emergency management. In times of emergency, NCDM General Secretariat shall collaborate with the provincial/municipal CDM and CRC to draw specific operational plans, according to existing guidelines. The plans must be sent urgently to NCDM General Secretariat after they are approved at the provincial and municipal levels.

A. First Sub-national Level

At the provincial and municipal levels, there shall be CDMs established with:

1. The provincial/municipal Governor as coordinator and President;
2. The first Deputy Governor as Vice President;
3. The Chiefs of each relevant government Department as members.

B. Second Sub-national Levels

At the District (Commune and Village) levels, CDM shall be established with the District Governor as President, the first deputy as Vice President and members from all government Ministries, Departments, Bureaus, Corporations, Authorities and Agencies as members.

Organization of emergency operations in all administrative subdivisions are as follows:

1. municipalities, there is hereby constituted a municipal CDM with the Governor as coordinator, and Police Superintendent as Deputy Coordinator, composed of all municipal officials, and national officials assigned at the municipal level. The Committee shall establish the Municipal Emergency Coordination Centre (MECC).
2. At the provincial level, a Provincial CDM shall likewise be constituted with the Governor as coordinator, with the provincial Police Superintendent as the Deputy Coordinator.
3. At the District, (Commune and Village) level, the provincial CDM may chose to constitute a CDM. The decision to establish a CDM at this level depends on an assessment of actual need, availability of resources and capacity for supervision and support by the Province.

C. General Tasks of Committees for DM

1. Collaborate with other national institutions on training provincial and municipal Committee members and to disseminate essential information to the public;
2. Undertake damage and needs assessments;
3. Prepare programs for rehabilitation and reconstruction;

4. Coordinate work with other related institutions, international organizations and NGOs;
5. Undertake hazard assessments and vulnerability analyses
6. Plan for emergency relief
7. Provide early warning and other information to the public of potential hazards
8. Coordinate with institutions, organizations and CRC in order to create communication networks between the National Committee and the Provincial and Municipal Committees
9. Ministries, Department, Bureaus, Corporations, Authorities and Agencies coordinate the activities of institutions, organizations and the CRC with various provincial and municipal Committees
10. Coordinate activities with institutions, organizations and the CRC with respect to providing evacuation, protective shelter, security , establishing a public awareness program with regard to being prepared for disasters, and preparing other programs;
11. Issues interim reports and final reports for each declared emergency and disaster that include recommendations for changes in national policy and practice.

IV. Budget size on national level

Funds for DM are indicated under the emergency relief fund: relief operations, medical assistance and immediate repair of damaged infrastructure to be undertaken by MOSALVY, MOH, MPWT or MND. NCDM may instruct DBM to allocate funds from the Emergency Relief Fund based on existing guidelines. Other sources of DM funds: Foreign assistance, funds from respective agencies

V. Progress and situations of the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA)

VI. Projects on disaster reduction headed by your Ministry

VII. Counterpart of ADRC

The National Committee for Disaster Management Royal
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